Minutes from the GMCW Board Meeting – Monday, September 27, 2004

Directors present: Allen, Bennett, Brookshire, Gerard, Hartley, Lewis, Mahaffey, Reiffer, Streit, Patton.

Directors absent: Blum, Cole, Hall, Kubiak, Lee, Cohen, Gannon.

Staff present: Bielenberg, Buhrman.

Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Reiffer at 7:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes was moved by Bennett, seconded by Mahaffey and approved 10-0.

Chairman Reiffer announced that Director Cohen had resigned, and that Director Cole was stepping down as Secretary but will remain on as Chair of the Governance Committee. Reiffer stated that all committees would have 25th Anniversary responsibilities. He noted that a Chair for the Spring Affair had not yet been identified. The Board was thanked for their participation in the August Retreat.

Treasurer Lewis gave the Financial report. The August report indicated a projected surplus for the end of the Fiscal Year 2004. It was noted that cash flow was still a challenge for the organization. Commendations were made to Executive Director Bielenberg for Corporate Funding successes and the Board for their year-end funding efforts. He noted that the Annual Audit would be conducted by Bormel and Grice beginning October 18. A discussion of the Membership Budget was advanced by Patton. The Financial Report was moved to be accepted by Streit, seconded by Gerard and approved 10-0.

In the absence of Cap Club Chair Lee, Bielenberg reported that the Cap Club Gala had been a big success and expressed his thanks to Lee and Cap Club Vice Chair Smock on a job well done.

Artistic Director Buhrman reported that the Chorus now has over 200 singers with 35 new members after the fall auditions. He gave an overview of the Chorus engagements for the remainder of 2004. Buhrman also noted further progress in Youth Outreach programs and discussed the projects being undertaken by the Artistic Advisory Committee.

Executive Director Bielenberg reported that the Retreat facilitator Robert Blackmun would continue to be a consultant to the Chorus this season. He announced that Rachel Williams has been hired as our new Business and Administrative Manager as of Monday, September 27, 2004. It was also announced that a new staff position of Marketing Manager had been filled by John Sykes, who would begin employment as of October 18, 2004. He thanked Director Allen for raising additional funds for the Wonneberger Fund. Bielenberg then listed numerous fundraising efforts and outreach programs that had been initiated for the new season.

President Patton reported that Membership Dues issues had been addressed at the beginning of the season and were already 92% collected. He noted that there would be special recognition given to volunteers this season. Several new services were noted for the Membership including newsletters, membership guides and rehearsal aids.

Chairman Reiffer reported for the Development/Fundraising Committee in regard to several fundraising efforts would occur in the new season. It was stated that donor cultivation events would have new emphasis this season. He also reported for the Marketing Committee that the Advertising revenue team of Gary Regan and Roger Bergstrom were well underway. Reiffer reminded the Executive Committee of their meeting scheduled for Monday, October 25 and the Board of the next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 22.

In other business, Streit requested that the Board be provided a revised budget for the 2005 season.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned by Hartley, seconded by Brookshire and approved 10-0.

Respectfully submitted,

David Streit
Board Member